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AND ASTORIA DAILY NEWS

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THE BELT OVERCOAT



Quite the most distinguished looking of the many good overcoats we are showing is this

Hart, Schaffner & Marx

"belt overcoat." The belt is the back only—doesn't go all the way 'round. The coat, however, is an "all-round" style garment; has all the characteristics of the Hart, Schaffner & Marx product—style fine tailoring, best quality.

P. A. STOKES

HOTEL PORTLAND

The Finest Hotel in the Northwest

PORTLAND, OREGON.

WHAT SHALL IT BE?

That's the query, and as GRIFFIN'S has been the Xmas Store in the past, so it is this year, with a larger and better assortment of Books in cheap and fine binding. Kid Books and the usual fancy articles and regular line brightened by the late ideas from the East and New York City. But it's no use tellin' but accept our invitation and

Come and See.

J. N. GRIFFIN.



You Need a Bath

AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK

You might as well bathe in the river as in an old wooden tub, but there is no occasion for doing either so long as up-to-date bath tubs can be had reasonably. Talk with us about the matter.

W. J. SCULLEY

470-472 Commercial. Phone Black 2243

Up to the Holidays

we shall sell at 20 per cent. reduction from regular price the following goods:

Benedicts Quadruple Silver Plated Knives, Forks and Spoons, Berry Spoons, Fruit Spoons, Sugar Spoons, Butter Knives, etc.

Also Silver Plated Table Ware for Children, Such as Knives, Forks, Spoons and Mugs.

FOARD & STOKES COMP'NY

GREAT PEAK DISFIGURED

Rock and Land Slide at Summit of Mt. Tacoma Alters Aspect of City of Destiny's Pride.

HEIGHT HAS BEEN REDUCED

Stockman Who Brings Report of Slide to Olympia Says Hundreds of Acres of Rock Are Carried Away.

Tacoma, Dec. 19.—An Olympia special says that a well known stockman living near the base of Mount Tacoma reports that an immense rock and land slide occurred on the mountain early this week. He claims that the slide has changed the shape of the mountain to a perceptible degree and reduced its height.

The first slide occurred Tuesday and was followed by others of lesser magnitude, until Wednesday night the roar and rumble of the successive falls of rock were plainly audible. He says the altered configuration of the peak shows that hundred of acres of rock must have fallen.

It is not generally believed in Olympia that the slide is as great in extent as appeared to the man bringing the information. Those who are familiar with the peak from having climbed to the summit maintain that a slide of that portion of the mountain would be impossible.

HEINZE ON THE STAND.

Johnstown Company Not Subsidiary to United Copper Company.

Butte, Mont., Dec. 19.—F. August Heinze swore on the witness stand in the contempt hearing in the United States court yesterday, before Judge Beatty, that the Johnstown Mining Company, one of the companies alleged to be in contempt, was not a subsidiary company to the United Copper Company. Neither did he own stock, he said in the Johnstown Company. Heinze said among other things, he had no interest in the company operating the Minnie Healy. He said he owned a majority of the stock in the United Copper Company, and the latter owned 95 per cent of the Montana Ore Purchasing Company. The Rarus was transferred to the Johnstown Company for the sum of \$1,000,000.

Brave Fireman Loses His Life.

New York, Dec. 19.—In a fire which destroyed a Brooklyn tenement house today Lieutenant John Freel, of the fire department was fatally injured by falling three stories from a fire escape. With his comrades he had just carried 25 women and children from the building. Many of them undoubtedly would have been suffocated but for the bravery of the rescuers.

LOOKS BAD FOR GRAVELLE.

Incriminating Evidence Against The Montana Train Robber.

Helena, Mon., Dec. 19.—In the Gravelle case yesterday the efforts of the state were devoted to approving attempts to wreck and destroy rails. A number of railway engineers and section men testified.

One of the engineers who testified gave a vivid description of how the explosion broke every window in his cab and put out all the lights. M. E. Sheridan, a ranchman, identified Gravelle as the man who had lost, at Sheridan's ranch, a spur which witness afterward found. When Gravelle was arrested he had only one spur, and the one found by Sheridan matches it.

Robert Collins, another ranchman, testified to finding, hidden in the hay at the Sheridan ranch, a few days after Gravelle's visit, a large quantity of dynamite in a sack.

LIPTON WILL CHALLENGE.

Thinks The Fourth Shamrock May Lift The Coveted America's Cup For Him.

London, Dec. 19.—Sir Thomas Lipton announced his readiness to again challenge for the America's cup, when the silver service, subscribed for by the people of the United States, was pre-

sented to him at a dinner at the Hyde Park hotel last night. The dinner was attended by several members of the house of commons, and members of the London presentation committee. Consul-General Evans presided and in presenting the service said it was unprecedented for such an honor to be paid a foreigner by the people of the United States, but said Thomas Lipton had won the golden opinions of those from whom he tried to wrest the America's cup.

Sir Thomas, in replying, thanked the Americans cordially, and concluded by saying he had sent a letter to the New York Yacht Club dealing with another possible challenge for the cup. He added he was quite willing to have one last try, provided he has a reasonable chance of success, especially as the next Shamrock will be the lucky four-leaved one.

First Arrest in Land Frauds

Wealthy San Francisco Operator Said to Have Unlawfully Secured 100,000 Acres.

Washington, Dec. 19.—John A. Benson, a wealthy San Francisco real estate operator, charged by the interior department with being the head of the alleged land frauds extending over a dozen western states and territories has been arrested here.

The charge on which the arrest was made was bribery, it being alleged in the affidavit that Benson had paid \$500 to Woodford D. Harlan, formerly chief of the special service division of the general land office, and now clerk in that office, on March 15. Benson gave \$5,000 bail for his appearance December 30.

The statement was made by an officer of the government last night that the information obtained regarding the alleged conspiracy implicates a number of persons at present employed in the interior department at Washington and elsewhere. Numerous arrests are expected to follow in short order, and some of the employees who may not be arrested will be dismissed from the service.

The government attorneys, Arthur B. Pugh and Oliver Pugin, stated, in asking for a large bail bond for Benson, that he had been guilty of bribery during his present visit to Washington since last Monday, and in the interior department itself, notwithstanding that that he was fully aware that his connection with the alleged frauds was fully known by the department.

The statement was made later that Secretary Hitchcock was so incensed at the flagrancy of this alleged offense that he told the officers to have Benson arrested at once, although it had not been planned to apprehend him at present.

Benson is a member of the firm of Benson & Hyde, of San Francisco, and, it is asserted, has defrauded the government out of at least 200,000 acres of land by various schemes since the passage of the forest reserve act in 1897.

It is alleged that Benson obtained information as to the land that would be wanted for forest reserves, and by means of fraudulent entries, or by purchase, immense tracts of such lands were obtained and afterward exchanged for valuable public lands in Washington, Oregon, California, Montana, Idaho, Nevada, Utah, Wyoming, Colorado, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Minnesota, Arizona and New Mexico.

Women Plan Smoot's Undoing.

Philadelphia, Dec. 19.—The executive board of the National Union of Women's Organizations, which is carrying on a campaign for the expulsion of Senator Smoot, of Utah, held its second meeting in this city today. A resolution was unanimously adopted calling upon all patriotic women to petition the senate for the expulsion of Senator Smoot.

Accident On The Rail.

Boise, Idaho, Dec. 19.—The south-bound limited express on the short line ran into the rear of a freight on Mebury hill, 15 miles west of Glenn's ferry at 7 o'clock this morning and the following were injured:

Engineer Kiser, of the passenger, badly cut and bruised.
Fireman Potter, of the passenger, badly bruised.

UNCLE SAM'S COMPETITOR

American Bankers' Association Proposes to Adopt New Money Order System.

PLAN HAS BEEN DECIDED ON

Will Come Into Direct Competition With Postoffice Department and Cut Into Revenues of Government.

New York, Dec. 19.—After a three days' session here, the bank money order committee of the American Bankers' Association, representing 70,000 banks, has agreed upon a plan for a money order system whereby sums not to exceed \$100 can be sent by mail and the orders cashed by any bank belonging to the association.

The scheme will, of course, come into direct competition with the money order division of the post office department, and, it is expected, cut largely into the government revenues. The proposed system is said to be operated precisely as exchange is now sold, and the orders are to be sold by a guarantee company.

The committee report will be submitted to the executive council of the national body at its regular meeting next April.

Home For The Holidays.

Washington, Dec. 19.—Theodore Jr. and Kermit Roosevelt arrived here yesterday from their school at Gorton Mass. They will spend their vacation at the White House. Miss Roosevelt, who is visiting in New York will return for Christmas.

WILL SAIL FOR COLON.

General Elliott Will Probably Go to Panama on the Dixie.

Washington, Dec. 19.—After a conference yesterday between Secretary Moody, Rear-Admiral Taylor, chief of the bureau of navigation, and Brigadier General George Elliott, commandant of the marine corps, it was decided that if the present conditions on the isthmus continue, General Elliott will sail for Colon on the Dixie from Philadelphia, when that vessel

goes south with a battalion of marines. It is said at the navy department in view of the growing complications over the Panama situation, that it was advisable to no longer announce the plans of the department with the freedom shown during the last few weeks, and for that reason a cablegram received today from Rear Admiral Coghlan was not made public.

GUILTY AS CHARGED.

Findings of the Court-Martial in the Case Of British Naval Officers.

Victoria, B. C., Dec. 18.—The court martial at Esquimalt of Captain C. J. Baker, commander and Lieutenant H. F. Grant, navigator, of H. M. S. Flora, for stranding that vessel on December 3, has been concluded. The court found that the charge was proven and the officers were severely reprimanded and warned to exercise more care in the future.

Mrs. Fannie Myntil died at her home, 130 Lincoln street, this morning. Mrs. Myntil had been a sufferer with consumption for a long time, so her death came not unexpectedly. She is survived by her husband and an infant child. Arrangements for the funeral have not yet been made.

M. Suman today paid the fine of \$25 imposed Wednesday by Justice Goodman. Suman failed to perfect appeal, and because of his delinquencies was in imminent danger of going to jail. In fact, he was taken almost to the jail door before he relented in his determination not to respond to the demands of the court. At the last moment, however, he made good. He is now a free man and doubtless ready for more trouble.

William Shock, a county patient, died at the hospital today. He was about 40 years of age and had lived in this city for a number of years, following the barbering business. The immediate cause of his death was heart failure, superinduced by excessive drinking. He had a family somewhere in the world, but their whereabouts are unknown to the public. The interment will be on the west side in the county's burying ground.

W. H. Barker returned today noon from a trip to Seattle.

Tutor Smith was over from Warrenton today.

Mrs. S. Harrison, of Warrenton, did Christmas shopping in the city today.

If you want anything good go to Dunbar's the cheapest store in Astoria for fine goods

Grand Opening Display

OF

Christmas Novelties

THIS WEEK

The A. Dunbar Co.